

Litigation Section *News*

Litigation Section of the State Bar of California

May 2008

Members of the Litigation Section,

This edition of Litigation Section News features information on the events, activities, publications, and upcoming programs of your Litigation Section.

Additionally, at the end of Litigation Section News, you can find information on the outstanding subcommittees of the Litigation Section. If you so choose, you can easily get involved in a subcommittee and join with your colleagues throughout California in the work of the Litigation Section.

Upcoming Events and Live Programs

A Day of Specialized CLE for Staff Counsel Attorneys and Paralegals. The Litigation Section's Insurance Staff Counsel subcommittee will present a day of CLE programs of special interest to staff counsel attorneys and paralegals on Friday, May 30, 2008 at the office of the State Bar at 180 Howard Street in San Francisco, with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. and the program starting at 9:15 a.m. More information and a registration form for the program may be found at the following page on the Litigation Section's website: http://www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=10711&id=38143

Coaching for the New Practitioner: What They Didn't Teach You in Law School. The Litigation Section presents a valuable program for new litigators on Monday, June 9, 2008, from 6 p.m.–8 p.m. at the Wilshire Grand Hotel, 930 Wilshire Boulevard in Los Angeles. This program will provide direction and advice from three accomplished judges on the unwritten rules and best practices for courtroom conduct, communication with other counsel and the impact of your overall approach to the law practice and your community reputation. More information, a registration form, and access to on-line registration, may be found at the following page on the Litigation Section's website: http://www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=10711&id=35863

A Week in Legal London / Oxford University Summer Program. A Week in Legal London, which will take place from June 29 to July 4, is your backstage pass to the courts of London. Attend sessions at the Royal Courts of

Justice, the Old Bailey, the Magistrates and Crown courts. Join leading London judges, barristers and solicitors in their chambers and at their dining tables. The Oxford program will be held from July 6-10, at Magdalen College, Oxford University, and it covers both law and history, with intriguing insights for attorneys as well as non-attorneys. Attend either the London or Oxford program or both. MCLE Credit is offered. Participation in A Week in Legal London is limited to sixty. Participation in the Oxford program is limited to thirty-five. For more information, visit www.aweekinlegallondon.com.

Bench/Bar Brown Bag luncheons are sponsored by the Litigation Section, and offer opportunities for interested members of the bar to meet California judges in an informal, small group setting. A Bench/Bar lunch with U.S. District Judge William Q. Hayes will be held in San Diego on Wednesday, June 25, from 12 noon to 1 p.m., in Judge Hayes' courtroom in the U.S. Courthouse at 940 Front Street in San Diego. Watch your e-mail box for information on other upcoming Bench/Bar luncheons.

Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame award. 2008 will mark the 15th year in which the Litigation Section has inducted outstanding California trial attorneys into the Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame at a special award dinner. The Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame award is presented to trial attorneys who have excelled in the courtroom and whose careers exemplify the highest of values and professional achievement. In 2007, distinguished trial lawyer Harvey R. Levine became a member of the Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame at a dinner held in San Diego. The 2008 Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame inductee will be announced soon, along with the date and location of the award dinner.

Publications

The Litigation Section offers three outstanding publications, free of charge to all members of the Litigation Section.

California Litigation magazine, published three times each year, presents in-depth articles and commentary by prominent members of the California legal community.

California Litigation Review is an annual publication provided to all Section members both in hard copy and

on-line via the Litigation Section website. California Litigation Review provides an overview of legislation and appellate decisions of the past year that are of interest to California litigators. This year's issue will be sent to Section members later this spring.

Litigation Update is a monthly electronic newsletter that is e-mailed to all Litigation Section members. It provides timely information on recent appellate decisions and other relevant issues.

Subcommittees

The Litigation Section's subcommittees carry out the work of the Section and provide many valuable services to our members and the legal community.

If you would like to be a part of any of these subcommittees, please contact the Litigation Section's Administrator, Tom Pye, at Thomas.Pye@calbar.ca.gov, and please indicate which subcommittee interests you.

The Litigation Section's current subcommittees are:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Subcommittee — Reviews legislation and proposed rule changes regarding all forms of ADR.

Best Practices Program Subcommittee — Organizes the Section's Best Practices Programs.

Education Program Subcommittee — Organizes programs to be presented at the State Bar of California Annual Meeting and the Section Education Institute.

Insurance Staff Counsel Subcommittee — Works on issues of importance to California litigators who work in the insurance industry and/or as in-house counsel.

Jury Instruction Subcommittee — Provides comments on Judicial Council's Civil Jury Instructions ("CACI").

A Week in Legal London Subcommittee — Organizes the Week in Legal London and Oxford University Summer Program.

Law Suits Program Subcommittee — Organizes program that collects donated used suits for men and women transitioning to self-sufficiency.

Outreach Subcommittee — Organizes Bench-Bar Programs and other events to assist members and works to diversify and increase Litigation Section membership.

Rules and Legislation Subcommittee — Reviews and recommends positions to be taken on behalf of the Section regarding rules and legislation that affect litigation.

Technology Subcommittee — Works on technology

issues of importance to California litigators, including the advancement of electronic filing in California state courts.

We hope that you enjoy Litigation Section News and the many benefits of Litigation Section membership.

Please pass this newsletter on to any colleagues who may be interested in joining the Litigation Section, and let them know that they can join the Litigation Section, and take advantage of all of these great benefits, by visiting the Litigation Section website at www.calbar.ca.gov/litigation and clicking on the "Join" link.

Other Member Benefits

The Litigation Section will soon be distributing to its members a program intended to help litigators prepare clients for their deposition, including discussion of recommended ways for a witness to approach a deposition and the pitfalls of common mistakes that deposition witnesses make.

Later this year, the Section will send another MCLE program on DVD to all Section members. This year's DVD program will feature Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame member e. bob wallach discussing effective methods of cross-examining witnesses at trial.

All of these benefits, like the Litigation Section's publications, are provided at no additional charge to members of the Section.

Special Offer to Litigation Section Members

FINZ'S ADVANCE TAPES on California Civil Procedure, Discovery, and Evidence

Half-year Subscription (three issues),
available as audio CD or audio tape, for
only \$15. You also receive unlimited access
to the website.

Regular subscription price \$220 per year (six issues)

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